

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-75. (Canceled)

76. (New) A computer-implemented method for displaying information regarding a test executive sequence, wherein the test executive sequence includes a plurality of steps, the method comprising:

including a GUI element in a run-time operator interface application in response to user input, wherein the GUI element is operable to display information;

including a control in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input, wherein the control includes pre-existing first functionality for determining the steps in the test executive sequence;

configuring a binding between the GUI element and the control; and

executing the run-time operator interface application, wherein the control is operable to automatically determine the steps in the test executive sequence during execution of the run-time operator interface application, wherein the binding between the GUI element and the control causes the control to display at least a subset of the steps in the GUI element in response to the control determining the steps.

77. (New) The method of claim 76,

wherein the control also includes pre-existing functionality for formatting the at least a subset of the steps in the test executive sequence into a displayable list of the at least a subset of the steps;

wherein said displaying the at least a subset of the steps in the GUI element comprises displaying the list of the at least a subset of the steps.

78. (New) The method of claim 77,

wherein in performing said formatting the at least a subset of the steps in the test executive sequence into the displayable list, the control is operable to:

determine information regarding each of the at least a subset of the steps in the test executive sequence; and

format the information for display in the GUI element;

wherein the displayable list includes the formatted information for each of the steps in the at least a subset of the steps.

79. (New) The method of claim 76,

wherein the test executive sequence is stored in a sequence file;

wherein in automatically determining the steps in the test executive sequence, the control is operable to automatically obtain information from the sequence file regarding the test executive sequence and determine the steps based on the information obtained from the sequence file.

80. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising:

configuring the control in response to configuration user input after said including the control in the run-time operator interface application, wherein the configuration user input specifies an appearance for the displayed steps, wherein configuring the control enables the control to cause the steps to be displayed in the GUI element with the specified appearance.

81. (New) The method of claim 80,

wherein the configuration user input specifies one or more properties regarding a plurality of columns to display in the GUI element;

wherein configuring the control enables the control to cause information for each displayed step to be displayed in the GUI element in the plurality of columns according to the one or more specified properties.

82. (New) The method of claim 76,

wherein the GUI element comprises a first GUI element;

wherein the method further comprises:

including a second GUI element in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input; and

configuring a binding between the second GUI element and the control;

wherein the second GUI element is operable to receive user input during execution of the run-time operator interface application;

wherein said configuring the binding between the second GUI element and the control enables the control to automatically determine the steps in the test executive sequence in response to the user input received to the second GUI element;

wherein said configuring the binding between the first GUI element and the control enables the first GUI element to automatically display the at least a subset of the steps in response to the user input received to the second GUI element.

83. (New) The method of claim 76,

wherein said including the control in the run-time operator interface application enables a user to configure the run-time operator interface application to automatically determine the steps in the test executive sequence without requiring the user to create program code to determine the steps in the test executive sequence;

wherein said configuring the binding between the GUI element and the control enables the user to configure the run-time operator interface application to automatically display the steps in the test executive sequence without requiring the user to create program code for displaying the steps in the test executive sequence.

84. (New) The method of claim 76,

wherein the test executive sequence is operable to perform one or more tests on one or more units under test (UUTs).

85. (New) The method of claim 76,

wherein the test executive sequence is associated with a test executive environment;

wherein the control is operable to call the test executive environment during execution of the run-time operator interface application to determine the steps in the test executive sequence.

86. (New) The method of claim 76,
wherein the control comprises an ActiveX component.

87. (New) The method of claim 76,
wherein the GUI element appears on a graphical user interface of the run-time operator interface application during execution of the run-time operator interface application;
wherein the GUI element is operable to display the steps on the graphical user interface during execution of the run-time operator interface application.

88. (New) The method of claim 87,
wherein the control does not appear on the graphical user interface of the run-time operator interface application during execution of the run-time operator interface application.

89. (New) The method of claim 76,
wherein the control is a pre-existing control provided by an application development environment used to create the run-time operator interface application.

90. (New) The method of claim 89, further comprising:
installing the application development environment on a computer system,
wherein said installing the application development environment on the computer system comprises installing the control on the computer system.

91. (New) The method of claim 89, further comprising:
installing the application development environment on a computer system;

installing the control on the computer system after said installing the application development environment on the computer system;

wherein said installing the control on the computer system enables the application development environment to provide a user with access to the control.

92. (New) The method of claim 76,

wherein said configuring the binding between the GUI element and the control comprises performing one or more calls to bind the GUI element to the control during execution of the run-time operator interface application.

93. (New) The method of claim 76,

wherein said configuring the binding between the GUI element and the control is performed in response to receiving user input to a graphical user interface to specify the binding between the GUI element and the control.

94. (New) A computer-implemented method for displaying a report for a test executive sequence execution, the method comprising:

including a GUI element in a run-time operator interface application in response to user input, wherein the GUI element is operable to display information;

including a control in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input, wherein the control includes pre-existing first functionality for generating a report for an execution of the test executive sequence;

configuring a binding between the GUI element and the control;

configuring the run-time operator interface application to invoke execution of the test executive sequence; and

executing the run-time operator interface application, wherein the run-time operator interface application executes to invoke execution of the test executive sequence, wherein the execution of the test executive sequence produces one or more results, wherein the control is operable to automatically generate a report summarizing the one or more results of the execution of the test executive sequence in response to the

execution of the test executive sequence, wherein the binding between the GUI element and the control causes the report to be displayed by the GUI element in response to the control generating the report.

95. (New) A computer-implemented method for displaying a report for a test executive sequence execution, the method comprising:

including a GUI element in a run-time operator interface application in response to user input, wherein the GUI element is operable to display information;

including a control in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input, wherein the control includes pre-existing first functionality for generating information indicating execution results for the test executive sequence;

configuring a binding between the GUI element and the control;

configuring the run-time operator interface application to invoke execution of the test executive sequence; and

executing the run-time operator interface application, wherein the run-time operator interface application executes to invoke execution of the test executive sequence, wherein the execution of the test executive sequence produces one or more execution results, wherein the control is operable to automatically generate information indicating the one or more execution results in response to the execution of the test executive sequence, wherein the binding between the GUI element and the control causes the information indicating the one or more execution results to be displayed by the GUI element in response to the control generating the information.

96. (New) A computer-implemented method for creating a run-time operator interface application for controlling execution of a test executive sequence, the method comprising:

including a GUI element in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input;

including a control in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input, wherein the control includes pre-existing first functionality for invoking execution of the test executive sequence; and

configuring a binding between the GUI element and the control;

wherein the GUI element is operable to receive user input during execution of the run-time operator interface application;

wherein said configuring the binding between the GUI element and the control enables the control to automatically invoke execution of the test executive sequence in response to the user input received to the GUI element.

97. (New) The method of claim 96,

wherein the control also includes pre-existing second functionality for displaying steps in the test executive sequence;

wherein the GUI element comprises a first GUI element;

wherein the method further comprises:

including a second GUI element in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input; and

configuring a binding between the second GUI element and the control;

wherein said configuring the binding between the second GUI element and the control enables the control to automatically display the steps in the second GUI element during execution of the run-time operator interface application.

98. (New) The method of claim 96,

wherein the control is a first control;

wherein the method further comprises including a second control in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input, wherein the second control includes pre-existing second functionality;

wherein said configuring the binding between the GUI element and the first control also enables the first control to invoke the second control to perform the second functionality.

99. (New) The method of claim 96,

wherein said configuring the binding between the GUI element and the control enables a user to configure the run-time operator interface application to invoke execution of the test executive sequence in response to user input received to the GUI element without requiring the user to write program code to program the run-time operator interface application to respond to user input received to the GUI element.

100. (New) The method of claim 96,

wherein said configuring the binding between the GUI element and the control enables a user to configure the run-time operator interface application to invoke execution of the test executive sequence in response to user input received to the GUI element without requiring the user to create program code to program the run-time operator interface to invoke execution of the test executive sequence.

101. (New) The method of claim 96,

wherein the control is operable to invoke execution of the test executive sequence to perform one or more tests on one or more units under test (UUTs).

102. (New) The method of claim 96,

wherein the test executive sequence is associated with a test executive environment;

wherein the control is operable to automatically call the test executive environment during execution of the run-time operator interface application to invoke execution of the test executive sequence.

103. (New) The method of claim 96,

wherein the control comprises an ActiveX control.

104. (New) The method of claim 96,

wherein the GUI element appears on a graphical user interface of the run-time operator interface application during execution of the run-time operator interface application;

wherein the GUI element is operable to receive user input to the graphical user interface during execution of the run-time operator interface application.

105. (New) The method of claim 104,

wherein the control does not appear on the graphical user interface of the run-time operator interface application during execution of the run-time operator interface application.

106. (New) The method of claim 96,

wherein the control is a pre-existing control provided by an application development environment used to create the run-time operator interface application.

107. (New) The method of claim 96,

wherein said configuring the binding between the GUI element and the control is performed in response to receiving user input to a graphical user interface to specify the binding between the GUI element and the control.

108. (New) The method of claim 96, further comprising:

executing the run-time operator interface application;

receiving user input to the GUI element during execution of the run-time operator interface application; and

the control invoking execution of the test executive sequence in response to said receiving user input to the GUI element.

109. (New) The method of claim 96,

wherein said including the GUI element in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input comprises displaying the GUI element on a

graphical user interface of the run-time operator interface application in response to user input.

110. (New) The method of claim 96, further comprising:
configuring one or more properties of the control in response to user input after said configuring the binding between the GUI element and the control.

111. (New) The method of claim 110, further comprising:
displaying a property panel for configuring the control; and
receiving user input to the property panel to configure the one or more properties of the control.

112. (New) The method of claim 96,
wherein the GUI element comprises one or more of:
a button;
a text input element;
a check box;
a selection ring.

113. (New) A computer-implemented method for creating a run-time operator interface application for controlling execution of a test executive sequence, the method comprising:

including a GUI element in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input;

including a control in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input, wherein the control includes pre-existing first functionality for stopping execution of the test executive sequence; and

configuring a binding between the GUI element and the control;
wherein the GUI element is operable to receive user input during execution of the run-time operator interface application;

wherein said configuring the binding between the GUI element and the control enables the control to automatically stop execution of the test executive sequence in response to the user input received to the GUI element.

114. (New) A computer-implemented method for creating a run-time operator interface application for controlling execution of a test executive sequence, the method comprising:

including a first GUI element in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input, wherein the first GUI element is operable to receive user input during execution of the run-time operator interface application;

including a second GUI element in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input, wherein the second GUI element is operable to display output during execution of the run-time operator interface application;

including a control in the run-time operator interface application in response to user input, wherein the control includes pre-existing first functionality for selecting the test executive sequence and pre-existing second functionality for displaying steps in the test executive sequence;

configuring a first binding between the first GUI element and the control, wherein the first binding enables the control to automatically invoke a dialog box enabling a user to select the test executive sequence in response to user input received to the first GUI element; and

configuring a second binding between the second GUI element and the control, wherein the second binding enables the control to automatically display the steps in the test executive sequence in the second GUI element in response to the user selecting the test executive sequence.